

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 10-17 are pending, Claim 18 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 10-17 were indicated as being allowed; and Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Palin et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0266347, hereinafter Palin) in view of Amin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,630,883, hereinafter Amin).

Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the identification of allowable subject matter.

In the interest of prosecution efficiency, and without prejudice or disclaimer, Applicants have canceled Claim 18.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the indication of Claims 10-17 as being allowed, it is respectfully submitted the present application is now in condition for formal allowance. A Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

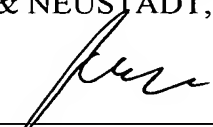
Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 08/07)

  
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Bradley D. Lytle  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 40,073